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calcined kaolins, hydrophobic calcined kaolins, hydrophobic calcium carbonates, calcium carbonates and mixtures thereof, said particulate materials being finely divided, wherein the surface is selected from the group consisting of fruits, vegetables, trees, flowers, grasses, roots and landscape and ornamental plants and said particulate materials as applied allow for the exchange of gases on the surface.

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~~11.9.~~ (Twice amended) A method for protecting surfaces from arthropod infestation which comprises applying to the surfaces selected from the group consisting of fruits, vegetables, trees, flowers, grasses, roots and landscape and ornamental plants, an effective amount of a slurry comprising water and one or more particulate materials selected from the group consisting of calcined kaolins, hydrophobic calcined kaolins, hydrophobic calcium carbonates, calcium carbonates and mixtures thereof, said particulate materials being finely divided, wherein said particulate materials as applied allow for the exchange of gases on the surface.

Please cancel claims 16-20 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application upon entry of the amendments. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended. Claims 16-20 have been cancelled. Favorable reconsideration in light of the amendments, new claims and remarks which follow is respectfully requested.

Claim 16 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Bar-Joseph et al. Claims 17-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Bar-Joseph et al in view of Marotta. Claim 20 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Bar-Joseph et al in view of VRBA. Since claims 16-20 have been cancelled, these rejections are rendered moot.

Claims 1, 3-5 and 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Bar-Joseph et al. Claims 10 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Bar-Joseph et al in view of VRBA. Claims 2, 6-8 and 12-14 have also been